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REMARKS

Applicant elects invention I drawn to a prosthetic foot. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 16-19 and 21 are elected and remain in the case. Claims 1 and 19 are currently amended. Claims 2, 3, 6, 17, 19 and 21 have been previously presented. Claim 18 is as filed. Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 10-15, 20 and 22-37 have been withdrawn. Claim 9 was previously cancelled.

Claims 1-3, 6, 16-19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 19 to more clearly define the recited structure.

Applicant has once again amended claim 1 in order to remove the expression "via the pair of sensors" and replace it with the expression "only by way of the pair of sensors". As can be seen by Figure 10 reproduced below, the pair of sensors 22A and 22B are positioned side by side under the connector and interposed between the connector and the top part of the elongated body. Hence, the connector is mounted to the top part of the elongated body only by way of the sensors 22A and 22B. It is the sensors 22A and 22B which connect the connector to the top part of the elongated body and there is no other direct nor auxiliary connection, nor pivot member which connects the connector to the top part of the elongated body. All connections between the connector and the top part of the elongated body are by way of the pair of sensors only, there are no other connections that bypass the pair of sensors.

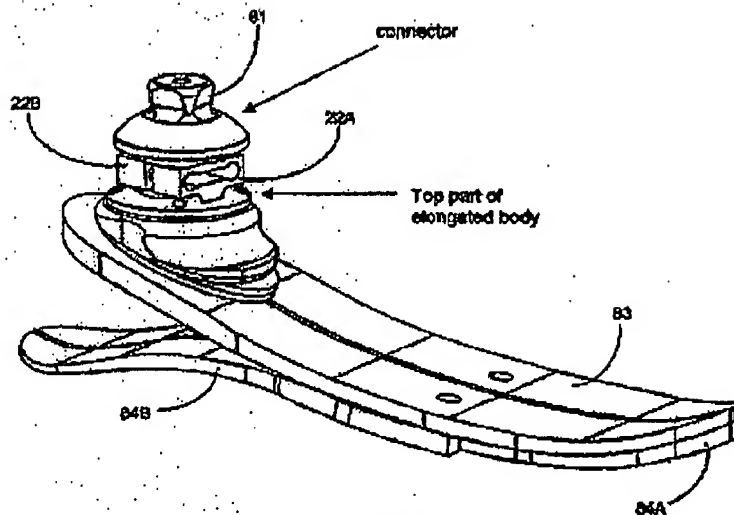


FIG. 10

Applicant contends that the expression "only by way of the pair of sensors" is supported by Figures 10 and 11, which show that the connector is mounted to the top part of the elongated body by the pair of sensors only. The pair of sensors are not just interposed between the connector and the top part of the elongated body, they serve to connect the foregoing together so as to avoid using any other auxiliary connection that does not go through the pair of sensors.

With respect to the Examiner's comments that the sensor plates of Figures 5-6 are also illustrated, Applicant contends that this does not change the fact that the connector is mounted to the top part of the elongated body only by way of the pair of sensors. With respect to any connecting apertures, Applicant specifies that any fasteners cannot bypass the sensors and that any fasteners that connect the top part of the elongated body and the connector must pass directly through the pair of sensors (i.e. only by way of the pair of sensors).

The expression "only by way of the pair sensors" although not literally expressed in the disclosure is clearly illustrated in Figures 10 and 11, which show no other connection between the connector and the top part of the elongated that does not pass through the pair of sensors.

Claims 1-3, 6, 18, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Christensen. However, the rejection should be withdrawn as Christensen fails to disclose or suggest one or more features recited in the claims.

Christensen does not teach a connector mounted to the top part of the elongated body only by way of a pair of sensors without bypassing this pair of sensors. In fact, it is important in the Christensen device to have a pivot member or other connection between the connector and the top part of elongated body as illustrated in Figures 8, 9 and 9b. The present invention has removed such connections and has proposed a new construction.

Applicant respectfully reiterates that the construction and therefore operation of the present invention as now claimed in amended claim 1 is completely different than the device taught in Christensen.

Claim 19 has also been amended in order to replace the expression "biased" by "slightly biased".

Claims 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Christensen in view of Tarjan et al. Claims 16 and 17 depend from and more specifically recite the structure of claim 1. As argued, *supra*, Christensen fails to disclose or suggest one or more recited features. Tarjan adds nothing in this regard. Therefore, the rejection of claims 16 and 17 should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Applicants respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the present application

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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